

REMARKS

Claims 16-28 are now pending, with claim 16 being the sole independent claim.

Claims 1-15 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Claims 16-28 have been added. Support for the reference to "phosphoribosylformimino-5-aminoimidazole carboxamide ribotide isomerase activity" in claim 16 is found at least in the paragraph at page 3, lines 29-32, and in Example 6, lines 7-22 of page 28 of the specification; in Example 6 the interchangeable term "HisA activity" is used. Support for the sequence identities and the Clustal default parameters recited in claims 16-19 is found at least in the paragraph beginning on line 23 of page 8 and continuing onto page 9 of the specification. Support for the use of the term "recombinant" in claims 22, 25, and 27-28, is found at least in the paragraph at page 13, lines 3-6 of the specification. Support for claims 26-28 are found at least in Examples 4-5, pages 22-26 of the specification. No new matter has been added.

The specification has been amended at two locations to remove reference to the following URL: www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/BLAST/.

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Restriction Requirement in the Office Action mailed August 1, 2003, Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, Group I, claims 1-9, drawn to a polynucleotide and a host cell. Applicants further elect SEQ ID NOs:21 and 22, wherein SEQ ID NO:22 is the amino acid sequence encoded by the continuous open-reading frame corresponding to nucleotides 2-982 of SEQ ID NO:21. Applicants submit that now pending Claims 16-28 are directed to Group I and SEQ ID NOs:21 and 22.

Please charge any fees or credit any overpayment of fees which are required in connection herewith to Deposit Account No. 04-1928 (E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company).

In view of the foregoing, allowance of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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